United Nations A/AC.256/L.13

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
14 June 2001

Original: English

Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly on Children
Third substantive session
New York, 11-15 June 2001
Agenda item 4
Organizational arrangements for the preparatory process and the special session

Draft resolution for adoption by the General Assembly

The Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly on Children recommends to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Organizational arrangements for the round tables for the special session of the General Assembly on children

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/93 of 7 December 1999 and 55/26 of 20 November 2000 on the preparations for the special session on children,

1. *Decides* that the special session of the General Assembly on children will include three interactive round-table sessions;

2. *Decides also* to adopt the organizational arrangements annexed to the present resolution;

3. *Further decides* that these arrangements shall in no way create a precedent for other special sessions.

Annex

1. The round tables shall be held as follows:

Round table 1: Wednesday 19 September 2001, from 3 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.

Round table 2: Thursday 20 September 2001, from 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Round table 3: Friday 21 September 2001, from 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

2. The round tables will have as their overarching theme "Renewal of commitment and future action for children in the next decade".

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3. Each round table shall have two co-chairpersons, for a total of six co-chairpersons. The co-chairpersons shall be heads of State or Government. Five co-chairpersons shall be selected from the five regional groups by 31 July 2001. The sixth co-chairperson, who shall be the head of State of the country of the President of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, will co-chair round table 3.

4. Each round table shall be limited to a maximum of 71 participants, of whom approximately 66 will be heads of delegation of Member States and approximately five will be participants representing observers and entities of the United Nations system.

5. Following the selection of the chairpersons of the round tables, each regional group should determine which of its members will participate in each round table, ensuring that equitable geographical distribution will be maintained, allowing for some flexibility.

6. Thus, in order to allow for some flexibility, for each round table the maximum number of participants from each regional group will be as follows:

African States	18 Member States
Asian States	18 Member States
Eastern European States	8 Member States
Latin America and the Caribbean States	12 Member States
Western European and other States	10 Member States

7. Member States that are not members of any of the regional groups may participate in a round table of their choice.

8. For each round table, participants other than Member States, representing observers and entities of the United Nations, will be selected by the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States. In addition, the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with the co-chairpersons of each round table and Member States, shall choose by 31 August 2001 two child delegates, taking into account equitable gender and geographic representation, who shall each be permitted to present a brief introductory statement on the theme of the round tables in a language of their choice.

9. Each head of delegation attending a round table may be accompanied by two advisers.

10. The Holy See and Switzerland, in their capacity as observer States, and Palestine, in its capacity as observer, may also participate in different round tables, to be determined in consultation with the President of the General Assembly.

11. Co-chairpersons from each round table will be responsible for presenting orally their summary of the discussions during the concluding plenary meeting of the special session.

12. The round tables will be closed to the media and the general public. Accredited delegates and observers will be able to follow the proceedings of the round tables via a closed-circuit television in the overflow room.